

Growing up in the Ohio Valley I have seen the effect that years of unfair trade has had on Ohio. My priority since coming to Congress has been to create and protect jobs. I support free trade, but it must be fair so that American workers can compete on a level playing field.

Trade Agreements, Past & Present

It's been twelve years since the United States adopted the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with Canada and Mexico and American families are still reeling from NAFTA's results. Wages have stagnated and 3 million manufacturing jobs are gone. American manufacturing is struggling to survive, and so are Ohio's working families. In the U.S. House of Representatives I will vote against any trade deal that allows foreign manufacturers to undercut American standards that unions have fought to put in place.

Congressional Steel Caucus

Since 1982, Ohio has been a leading steel producer and still remains among the top three steel-producing states. A strong and viable U.S. steel industry is critical to America's infrastructure, national economic security and homeland security. That is why I am proud to serve on the Executive Board for the Congressional Steel Caucus, which is focused on the needs of the steel industry and preserving American jobs.

Fair Labor Standards

Hardworking Americans are the backbone of this country and it is important that someone looks out for their interests in Congress. To help provide real support to workers I worked hard to pass the [Fair Minimum Wage Act](#) which raised the minimum wage from 5.15 to 7.25. I also believe that Unions are an important protector of workers rights, which is why I support the Employee Free Choice Act which would make it easier for Unions to form. I have also cosponsored the [Decent Working Conditions and Fair Competition Act](#). This bill would make it illegal to sell goods produced from sweatshops and would hold corporations accountable for unfair trade practices. Through my work in Congress I will continue to fight for the rights and interests of workers throughout my district and the Country.

For more about my work on labor and trade issues, [click here](#).